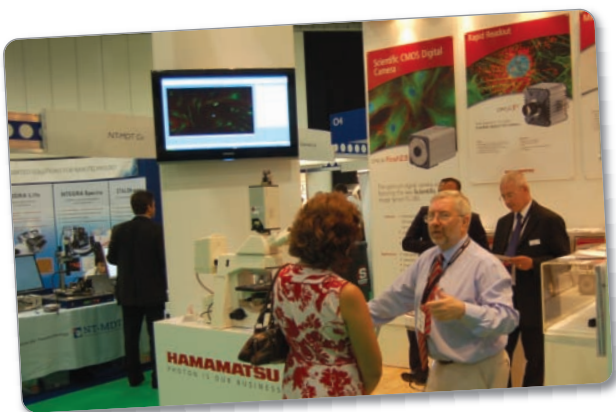


## Microscience 2010 – A Strong Platform for 2012

**Microscience 2010, the Royal Microscopical Society's flagship meeting held at ExCeL London at the end of June, attracted 519 conference delegates - the first time that the 500-barrier has been broken. And, the overall visitor-target of 2,000 was also reached.**



The international conference featured three parallel themes containing eighteen symposia devoted to Life, Materials, and New Frontiers. They struck a balance between biological and physical sciences, and light, electron and other microscopies. This breadth made Microscience 2010 the Society's most inclusive event yet.

"In 2008 and 2010 we focused on developing the scientific-standing of the conference, and it has really paid off," said Dr Debbie Stokes, Co-Chair of the Organising Committee. "The tone and quality was set each day by the Plenary Speakers - Dr Jennifer Lippincott-Schwartz, Professor Sir John Meurig Thomas, and Professor Wolfgang Baumeister. The standard of the science throughout has been very high, and the first feedback from delegates has been extremely positive."

The conference sat alongside Europe's largest exhibition dedicated to microscopy and imaging. A record 1,170m<sup>2</sup> of space was taken by nearly 100 companies. The quality of the stands, and the range and value of equipment on show was quite breathtaking. Rod Shipley of FEI, who is Vice-chair of the RMS Corporate Advisory Board, summed it up succinctly: "Microscience continues to be the best commercial exhibition in Europe."

The final number of 2,139 visitors was just 45 short of the

2008 figure. This is despite the downturn in the economy that made it difficult for many - especially those not presenting their work - to obtain funding for travel.

All of the positive features from this year will feed in to the planning of the European Microscopy Congress, which the Society will host in London in 2012.

EMC 2012 will be twice the size of Microscience 2010 and it aims to be even more inclusive, bringing together researchers, practitioners, and companies in new and novel ways - not just from Europe, but from Asia, Australasia, and the Americas.

"This year the RMS put together a super wide-ranging conference on almost all aspects of microscopy, together with one of the best exhibitions you are likely to see," said Professor Tony Wilson, newly elected President of the RMS, and Vice-chair of the EMC Organising Committee. "In 2012 we are being more ambitious and planning something even better, and I would encourage anybody with a passion for microscopy and imaging to put the date in their diary."

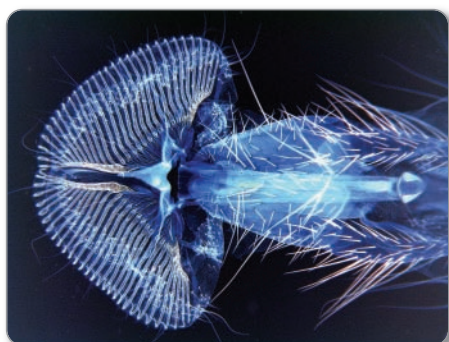
**The European Microscopy Congress 2012 will be at ExCeL London, 16<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> September 2012. The First Call for Papers will be made on 1st October 2011.**

*"The tone and quality was set each day by the Plenary Speakers - Dr Jennifer Lippincott-Schwartz, Professor Sir John Meurig Thomas, and Professor Wolfgang Baumeister. The standard of the science throughout has been very high, and the first feedback from delegates has been extremely positive."*

## MICROSCIENCE 2010 at a glance

Over 100 micrographs were submitted to the 2010 RMS International Micrograph Competition, with stunning entries in all categories.

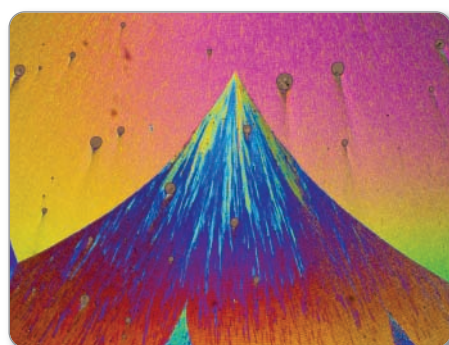
The prize winners were as follows:



### Light Microscopy Life 1<sup>st</sup>

Michael Gibson. Blowfly Darkfield Image: Pseudo darkfield image showing the proboscis of a Blowfly from a slide by Norman. Sony Cybershot W50 digital camera attached to an Olympus widefield eyepiece coupled with a x3.7 Lomo achromatic objective lens on a Russian Biolam microscope.

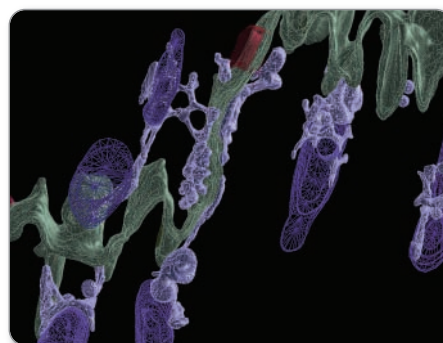
iPad kindly donated by FEI Company



### Light Microscopy Materials 1<sup>st</sup>

Karl E. Deckart. Phenyl Imidazol: BF polarised illumination.

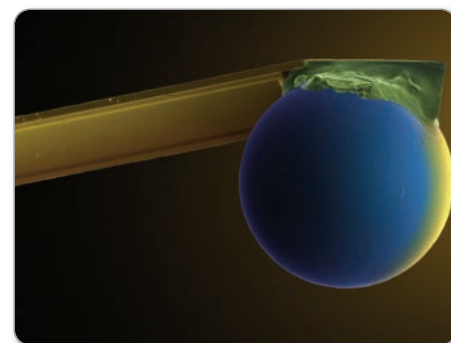
Sony SLR kindly donated by Quorum Technologies



### EM Life 1<sup>st</sup>

Amanda Wilson. Discography 2: A three-dimensional computer model showing part of the intercalated disc, the undulating double membrane that separates adjacent cardiomyocytes. Field size; 4.7x2.7x0.4um.

Huygens Essential license kindly donated by Scientific Volume Imaging BV



### EM Materials 1<sup>st</sup>

Paul Gunning. Probing the Nanoworld: A polymer bead attached to a silicon-nitride cantilever so its stiffness can be estimated by SPM, using tiny forces to squash the bead against a hard surface. 5kV, Field-width 115µm. Diamond kindly donated by Diatome Ltd

